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The Rule of Force.

BY J. A. EDGERTON.

You may teach it over and over again,
The doctrine that might makes right;
You may seek to wash out the murderer's stain,
But you never can make it white.

You may turn to the old world doctrine of blood,
Nor think of the awful cost;
You may close your eyes to the Red Sea flood
And the hosts of the tyrant lost.

You may think with safety once more to tread
The pathway of tyranny;
But there comes a voice from the world of the dead
That tells you the penalty.

The doctrines of force and fraud and blood
Are waning away from earth;
The gospel of love and brotherhood
Is the new creed come to birth.

The day-dawn breaks for Humanity,
The reign of the Prince of Peace,
When all the people at last are free
To share in the world's increase.

This motto proclaimed the sons of morn
To the kingdoms that lived in night:
"The peoples of earth are equal-born,
Inheriting equal right."

You may seek to efface this truth if you will,
At the blind dictation of Greed,
But 'twill shine on high in its glory still,
Till all of the world shall heed.

Oh, let us banish the reign of might,
While the world is yet in its youth;
And bring in the age-long epoch of right,
Ruled over by love and truth.

Oh, let us grapple the evil now,
And once and for all make plain
That the sons of God no more will bow
Unto those with the mark of Cain.

DENVER, COL.

International Trade Leading to Permanent Peace.*

BY JOHN CROSBY BROWN, OF NEW YORK.

I always feel that when we enter upon the discussion of this question of international arbitration from the business standpoint, we are descending somewhat from that high ethical and moral ground upon which its justice and its reasonableness ought always to be upheld. But in every great movement for the betterment of mankind it is wise to make use of all forces and influences that are working in that direction, and I am confident from my own experience that the various business interests of the world at large are slowly but surely making for the peace of the world.

The language employed in describing the subject that is to engage our attention this evening lifts the question just a little above the narrow limits of national self-interest to the broader plane of the world's welfare. I want to call your attention to this language. We are to consider the influence of the industrial, commercial and financial forces of the world in favor of international arbitration. The question is not the influence of these industrial, commercial and financial forces on our own country; it is not even the question of the influence of these forces at work in the Anglo-Saxon race, which sometimes we are apt, with too little modesty, to exalt at the expense of all the rest of the world. It is a broader question than that. It embraces these great forces at work in France, in Germany, in Russia, in Italy, in South America, in all the civilized countries of the world. And it is even a broader question than that. It takes in all these forces that are at work along these same lines in the civilization of the East and of the islands of the sea. And if we are to learn anything from the experience of the past,—while of course there have been a great many commercial wars,—the more the world is brought together, the more we come to know of one another, the larger the interests that different parts of the world have at stake in other parts of the world, the greater is that bond of peace and unity that binds us together.

It is not so very long ago when, apart from the foreign trade of this country, our domestic trade and business was practically very little influenced by anything occurring outside of the country, and it scarcely had any influence whatever in the great financial centres of the world. I remember that when as a young man I was getting my business training in Liverpool, the financial news from the United States was usually confined to a few sentences in the leading morning London journal. The provincial papers,—those published in Liverpool and Manchester,—which were in closer touch with the United States, had perhaps a little larger space devoted to the financial and business news from this country. We were a factor that did not count for much in the great financial movements of the old world. But all this has changed. In the last few years there has been a wonderful transformation, and I venture to say that there is not an intelligent or prudent business man in any part of this country who would venture for one moment to enter upon any enterprise of magnitude without keeping his hand upon the financial pulse of the world and without noting the changes in that pulse that are brought to him every morning by the cable from the financial centres of Europe and even of the Orient. And so much is this the case that even in the management of our domestic affairs it is absolutely essential at the present time, if a man is to be up-to-date and on his guard, that he shall know something of what is going on in the great financial centres, because there can no disturbance occur, financial or political, in any part of the world that is not instantly, to a greater or lesser degree, felt in every financial centre of this country, so closely are we bound together.

Public attention has recently been called to the alarm that seems to have been occasioned in certain of the countries of Europe, by the appearance of this country

* From an address given at the last Mohonk Arbitration Conference.

as an active competitor in markets which heretofore have been considered their own, and a great many devices have been suggested to put a stop to this American aggressiveness; and as is very natural, a great many very foolish and unwise suggestions have been made, so that a good many people have been very much frightened and consider that this whole matter is a menace to the peace of the world.

Now we all know that when a man is beaten he is inclined to lose his temper, and an angry man is ready for a fight; so persons who are concerned for the welfare and peace of the world fear that from this spirit of anger and disappointment trouble will come, that this new competitor among the nations of the world is bound to bring trouble, and that the cause of international peace is somewhat in danger.

I do not myself take any such views, because already the sober second thought is becoming manifest, and thoughtful men on the other side of the Atlantic of different nationalities are beginning to ask why it is this giant youth is coming in and giving them this trouble in their own fields, and they are taking time and pains to investigate and to study the question. It is known to quite a number in this room that during this last winter one of the chambers of commerce in Germany selected some of their most prominent members and sent them over to this country as a delegation to our chambers of commerce and other industrial bodies, to investigate this question. The same thing has occurred in France, and some of us have had the pleasure of meeting these gentlemen and talking to them and giving them all the information in our power, and helping them to get at the real facts that have enabled us to go into their markets and get ahead of them on their own ground.

Let us mention another significant fact. During this last winter a member of Parliament from England, who came over to study this question, was so much impressed with what was going on in the development of our various industries, that he has gone back with the intention of bringing over, at his own expense, a number of young men in public and business life, and also a number of representative artisans, to study our methods and see what we are doing.

Now these gentlemen are simply doing what we did years ago. It was not done by public bodies so far as we were concerned, but when we wanted to find out how to establish any new industry, our people used to go and study all the best methods in different parts of the world and then come home and put Yankee wit and ingenuity at work to try and make them better. These people are simply trying to do the same thing.

Whether we like it or not, and whether we are willing to admit it to ourselves or not, these great industrial, commercial and financial forces of the world are all steadily and slowly at work pulling down national barriers, drawing together the races and the nations of the world into closer fellowship, and so linking us one to the other that, while we shall of course still maintain our fondness for our own country and our loyalty to it, and shall try to make our own nation the best nation in the world, our interest and our welfare are so linked one to the other that it will be simply impossible for us, in the long run, to enter upon any course that is going to be an injury to our neighbors without its reacting injuriously

upon ourselves. And what is true of us is true of all the nations of the world.

For this reason I look forward with perfect confidence to the time when the Golden Rule in international trade will be the real guiding principle that will lead us into permanent peace.

Broken in the War.

The Boer generals, in their pathetic appeal to the civilized world, have given the results on their side of that unfortunate war, which was "inevitable" only because it was stubbornly determined upon and forced on. Here is the other. Both sides show the folly and wickedness of the whole affair. The *Morning Leader* asks: "What is to become of the eighteen thousand disabled?" This paper says it has already drawn attention to the fate which has overtaken the able-bodied soldiers from South Africa, who have been poured out of "the ranks" into the glutted labor markets of the country. Some of these have squeezed themselves into a post, others have found their way into the workhouse or are sleeping in the street for want of a roof over their head, while the rest are eating up their arrears of pay in the patient waiting for employment of some sort.

"Fifty per cent. of the discharged soldiers are unskilled laborers," said the secretary of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society. "What becomes of them?" he was asked. "I don't know," was the laconic reply.

This is a trivial matter, however, for it concerns only the sound in limb. What about the human wreckage which has been discharged into civil life from the African veldt? The Boer generals are crying aloud over their "maimed and needy ones" and their land "bathed in tears." But the war has served our own side no better, for it is an official fact that 17,808 British soldiers have been dismissed from the army as maimed or otherwise "medically unfit"; and two-thirds of this number are in such a condition as to be unfit for ordinary work.

One of these poor fellows has just told his tale. He has had twelve years in the army, and served two and a half years in South Africa. He has just been discharged with the magnificent pension of 8d. a day!

The secretary of Lloyd's Patriotic Fund has been good enough to supply some particulars about the rest of the nearly eighteen thousand human wrecks we have now on our hands. It seems that the war had a peculiar faculty for producing epileptics. Ever so many men have come home helpless cripples from this cause. Further, the long marches, exposure and short commons brought on valvular disease of the heart among a large number of the troops.

So many men, too, contracted consumption that the Patriotic Fund is besieging the consumption hospitals with appeals to admit them. But the hospitals are full with civilian cases, and the soldiers must wait.

Lastly, the harassing work in the blockhouses and on the lines of communication told on the minds of many of the troops. Ceaseless anxiety, broken sleep night after night, perpetual turning out in pursuit of a phantom enemy, had their inevitable result; and numbers of men have found their way into English asylums suffering from melancholia. They got a medal, to be sure, but without bars. The grateful nation went further. For the